

1 Q. Then on the right side, that right
2 block is not parsed at all; is that right?

3 A. That is correct.

4 Q. Did you make any attempt to parse the
5 information in the right block?

6 A. No, I did not.

7 Q. Why not?

8 A. Time. I was told to do what I could in
9 the short amount of time that was allotted for
10 it.

11 Q. Going back to the three blocks on the
12 left, are those broken into data fields?

13 A. Yes, that is correct.

14 Q. I guess you're interpreting fields then
15 to include those lines. Each line would be a
16 field?

17 A. I'm not sure if I understand the
18 question.

19 Q. For example, let's look at the upper
20 left block. It looks to me like we've got a line
21 for the name Dizon, Alex and Callie. Is that one
22 of the fields that you populated?

23 A. Yes. I populated that with the
24 information that was within the HTML for the
25 customer service record.

1 Q. Are you familiar with the fields that
2 must be populated on an EDI order?

3 A. I am not familiar with exactly which
4 fields were populated, no.

5 Q. Are you generally familiar -- for
6 example, let me ask you this.

7 A. I don't --

8 Q. Go ahead.

9 A. I know that there is certain
10 information that needs to go on there. I know
11 that there are things like the listed name, the
12 billing name, the delivery name and address for
13 the directories, the type of service that you're
14 requesting, things of that nature. But exactly
15 how that information is presented in the order,
16 I'm not familiar with that.

17 Q. And for example, just take the street
18 address on an EDI order. Do you know if it
19 requires fields for the street number, street
20 name, street type such as road and street
21 directionality?

22 A. I don't know that.

23 Q. Mr. Berman, do you know?

24 BY MR. BERMAN:

25 A. I don't know that either.

1 Q. Looking at that upper left block, it
2 appears that the street address appears twice
3 there, do you know why that would be?

4 BY MR. RUNNELS:

5 A. I believe the first listing is the
6 directory listing. And the second listing is the
7 actual street address that may be the opposite
8 though. One is the actual listing, one is -- one
9 is the directory listing. One is the actual
10 street address.

11 Q. So you should always see two street
12 addresses filling those two blocks or those two
13 lines, excuse me?

14 A. Yes. For the CSRs which I tested the
15 parsing on, there was a directory listing address
16 as well as an actual address.

17 Q. Did Albion make any attempt to parse
18 this data in these left-hand blocks to any finer
19 level of granularity?

20 A. For purposes of this presentation, I
21 determined that this was really all that was
22 needed. I didn't -- I didn't break it down, no.
23 I didn't even attempt to break it down any further
24 than what you see here.

25 Q. Based on your experience in this

1 project, would you expect any difficulty in
2 attempting to parse the data down into smaller
3 pieces?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Why is that?

6 A. That is because the information that is
7 entered in these fields, I believe is free form.

8 Q. What do you mean by free form?

9 A. In other words, well, say for example,
10 the second box, the top left of the window that
11 you see here is a drop-down list. So where you
12 see Georgia dash Atlanta, a user would be required
13 to pick one of those.

14 So it's either one of those, or it's
15 nothing. Whereas the one above it is a telephone
16 number which can be entered by hand. So the user
17 has the ability to put in whatever he or she
18 wants. It's my guess that it's the same thing
19 with these fields, as you see them here.

20 Q. These fields referring to the four
21 blocks?

22 A. Referring to the blocks, yes. Say for
23 example, the directory listing. That's how you
24 want it listed; right? And that's not
25 necessarily -- I mean you can have -- as far as I

1 know, you can have your listing in a directory
2 appear just about any way you want it. So my
3 guess is that you wouldn't want to limit someone
4 to entering that a particular way.

5 Q. Why is that?

6 A. Well, because if you required someone
7 to put in a city, for example, and they don't want
8 a city, then you're not giving them the service
9 that they want. So in other words, these lines
10 there's no set format to these lines. So you
11 would really just be guessing as to where to
12 parse.

13 Q. And so for example, you might run into
14 difficulty as a programmer trying to deal with a
15 street name that had two words in it?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. You might have trouble with whether
18 street or road was abbreviated or not?

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. The street might or might not have a
21 directionality associated with it.

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. City name might have more than one word
24 in it?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. Zip code might have five or it might
2 have 10 characters?

3 A. I don't know that.

4 Q. But previous ones, those are all
5 problems that would make it difficult, perhaps
6 impossible to parse this information at a finer
7 level of granularity?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Let's look for a moment at the right
10 block. Do you see most of the way down the page,
11 there's three way calling, an entry for that? Do
12 you see that?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And then it appears under that line
15 there's a telephone number. And then below that,
16 there's another line of data. Starting with
17 ZSER. Do you see that line?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Do you know what data that is being
20 communicated there?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Do you know a what field identifiers
23 are, or FIDS as they're sometimes called?

24 A. I've heard the term. I'm not sure that
25 I could define it.

1 Q. I gather it was not part of -- strike
2 that. I gather you didn't attempt to interpret
3 all the information that appears in this screen to
4 the right or this block to the right?

5 A. No. I'm not familiar with the business
6 enough to do that.

7 Q. Did you ever request BellSouth to
8 provide a CSR record layout?

9 A. I asked if there was one. And I was
10 told that there was not.

11 Q. Who did you ask?

12 A. I believe that I asked Raymond Betts.

13 Q. Did he tell you anything else other
14 than there was not one?

15 A. Regarding that request, no.

16 Q. Right. I understand you talked to him
17 about other things.

18 A. Right.

19 Q. But that was his only response when you
20 asked whether there was a CSR record layout?

21 A. Right, there was not.

22 Q. What is a record layout?

23 A. I assume that a record layout would be
24 saying in this line or in this space within a
25 record, you can expect this type of information to

1 appear.

2 Q. It would, I suppose for example. Tell
3 you that in that unbroken string of string of
4 characters that we've been talking about, the
5 first 20 deal with the person's name?

6 A. It could be something along that line.
7 It could also be, in the case of the other HTTP,
8 there aren't necessarily definite lengths to
9 fields that are delimited by certain tags.

10 In other words, if you see this certain
11 tag, string of characters -- say question mark,
12 pound sign, whatever -- you know that what comes
13 after that is a certain type of value.

14 Q. And was it those tags that enabled you
15 to parse the information into the blocks shown on
16 this screen on page 25?

17 A. They were not HTML tags. As you
18 stated, the HTML tags within the document are at
19 the beginning of this long string of text and at
20 the end. But within the long string of text,
21 there are other things that I use. Say for
22 example, billing name was prefaced by BN, if I saw
23 BN, I knew the next thing was the billing name.

24 Q. So you were to some extent able to
25 break the code?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. But not completely?

3 A. As completely as I felt was necessary.

4 Q. As completely as necessary to fill
5 these lines of data shown on the screen?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Well, I believe you testified before
8 that you couldn't say for sure that the
9 application you developed would parse CSRs even at
10 this level of granularity in any case; is that
11 right?

12 A. That is correct.

13 Q. Mr. Runnels, were you involved at all
14 in the part of the project where information was
15 taken from the pre-ordering stage and then
16 automatically populated into an EDI order?

17 A. Well, there are two parts to that. One
18 is -- there are two parts to our application from
19 a presentation standpoint, in the ordering. One
20 is the pre-order information. That is where the
21 actual CGI integration takes place. Telephone
22 numbers are gathered, addresses validated, etc.

23 When you go through the firm order
24 part, what we have termed in here the generate
25 LSR, certain information is used -- certain

1 information from the pre-order part of the
2 application is used to automatically populate
3 fields within the firm order part of the
4 application.

5 So in other words, the address that you
6 validated in the pre-order is the address you're
7 going to use in the firm order. So we'll carry
8 that over. The address that you use for service
9 is most likely going to be the address that you
10 use as a listing for delivery information, for
11 billing. These fields are pre populated.

12 The user has the ability to change
13 that. It's only when all of the information from
14 the pre-order and firm order that are required is
15 entered that that information that has been stored
16 as part of this big object that we call order is
17 actually converted into the EDI order. And that
18 is a separate process.

19 Q. And based on that experience that you
20 had with EDI ordering, is the EDI order broken
21 into fields such as the number for the street
22 address and street name and so forth?

23 A. I don't know the actual fields that are
24 on the EDI order.

25 Q. Is that because you don't remember

1 or --

2 A. I was not responsible for that part of
3 the application.

4 Q. Who was?

5 A. That was Muthu, M-u-t-h-u.

6 Q. Mr. Berman, is that true for you as
7 well?

8 BY MR. BERMAN:

9 A. That's true. I've seen the file that's
10 been created, but I can't answer to that detail.

11 BY MR. RUNNELS:

12 A. I've seen the file as well, but I again
13 can't answer to that detail.

14 Q. Can you tell me, Mr. Runnels, whether
15 you would expect to be able to populate the EDI
16 order using data parsed to the level shown on
17 page 25 of your report?

18 A. I don't know.

19 Q. When a LENS calls for CSR information,
20 it obtains it from the CRIS database; is that
21 right?

22 A. I don't know that. I don't know --
23 basically, I make a call. And I get back
24 information. I'm not sure what all sort of
25 back-end processing that BellSouth goes on to give

1 me that information.

2 Q. Based on your knowledge and experience,
3 you expect that the BellSouth database for CSR
4 information, whatever it's called, would have to
5 be broken down by fields to the specified numbers
6 of characters?

7 A. I'm sorry, could you repeat that?

8 Q. Yes. I'm trying to -- the question is,
9 based on your knowledge and experience, would the
10 BellSouth database with this CSR information have
11 to be broken down by fields with specified numbers
12 of characters?

13 MR. ALEXANDER: Let me object, because
14 the foundation of the question says based on his
15 knowledge and experience. This witness has
16 testified he did the CSR parsing that you've been
17 crossing about for the last 10 minutes in three
18 days.

19 As long as we're clear that that
20 knowledge and experience is three days, then go
21 ahead with your question.

22 BY MR. O'ROARK:

23 Q. Yes, I'm really getting at your
24 knowledge as a computer programmer. You've dealt
25 with databases a lot, I would assume.

1 A. I do not know the database SCHEMA for
2 the CSR.

3 Q. Did you ever ask for the SCHEMA?

4 A. I asked Raymond if there was a way to
5 get the information at a more granular level. He
6 told me that as a LENS developer, he and his
7 coworkers would have liked to have been able to
8 present that in more granular fashion but that
9 what they got from the database was in the format
10 similar to what you see presented here.

11 And he was not aware of how it was
12 stored in the database or exactly -- either he was
13 not aware or he did not communicate to me how that
14 information got from the database to LENS.

15 Q. Have you ever seen a database that
16 didn't have fields broken down in specified
17 numbers of characters?

18 A. Well, I'm not sure how to answer that
19 question.

20 Q. Do they typically?

21 A. Well, again, I'm not sure how to answer
22 that question. If you're asking should -- say for
23 example -- the directory listing be broken down
24 into 3822 as a separate column, Meadow as a
25 separate column, Green as a separate whatever, I

1 don't know.

2 It would depend on the needs. Whether
3 or not that should have a specified length is up
4 to the database administrator to design. Some
5 columns have specified lengths. Some columns have
6 variable lengths.

7 BY MR. BERMAN:

8 A. Let me add to this. I've worked on
9 many different accounts or projects for clients
10 that do it different ways. For instance, one
11 experience that I have is that they have broken it
12 apart purely for reasons for postage. Okay. In
13 other words, they can get better postal rates
14 because this piece is broken out, the way they
15 group, the mailing.

16 Versus other clients don't have the
17 need or the requirement to break it down any
18 further, okay. But if they do break it down, they
19 don't tell you the length, okay, because it's an
20 attribute in and of itself.

21 So when you receive it or go after it
22 from a database, per se, like street number versus
23 street name, that's it. You know that that's the
24 two different components. Okay.

25 //

1 BY MR. RUNNELS:

2 A. I guess the point I'd like to make is
3 that I don't know whether 3822 Meadow Green Court,
4 N. W., is stored as one long -- it could be one
5 column in a database. It could be multiple
6 columns in the database. I don't know that.

7 Q. Okay. If I use the term field by field
8 parsing to refer to parsing in a greater level of
9 granularity that would, say, break street address
10 down by number, name, type, and directionality,
11 will you understand what I'm talking about?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Would you agree with me that the only
14 way to parse CSR data accurately and consistently
15 on a field by field basis would be to have direct
16 access to the CRIS database or the BellSouth
17 database?

18 A. No. I would not agree with that.
19 There would be two ways, one of which if you had
20 direct access to the database, obviously you
21 wouldn't have to worry about the layout.

22 BY MR. BERMAN:

23 A. The database has to support that as
24 well.

25 //

1 BY MR. RUNNELS:

2 A. Right.

3 Q. One at a time.

4 A. But if the CSR were presented in a
5 format similar to the way a list of telephone
6 numbers was presented, and it actually said, you
7 know, first name this and last name that or
8 whatever, that's another way to do it. There's
9 probably a lot of other ways to do it. I don't
10 know that it's necessary that you have to have
11 access to the database.

12 Q. I want to make sure I understand the
13 second way that you just described. I gather that
14 would be to have some intermediary service, sort
15 of like LENS or whatever LENS uses, that brings
16 the data back in a more user-friendly format? Is
17 that what you're describing?

18 A. Well, for example the billing name is
19 prefaced by BN, so I know what comes after it is
20 the billing name. The billing address is prefaced
21 by BA. So I know that that string after it is the
22 billing address. Someone could, I suppose, take
23 it a step further and say BA-1 is the street
24 number, BA-2 is the street name, BA-3 is the
25 directional or whatever.

1 Q. And if you didn't have direct access to
2 the database, then that sort of information
3 somehow would have to be conveyed through whatever
4 service goes and gets the information from the
5 database; is that right?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Mr. Berman, you said you had something
8 to add. And I didn't want to interrupt you, but I
9 wanted to get you one at a time. Is there
10 anything you had to add to that?

11 BY MR. BERMAN:

12 A. No.

13 Q. Mr. Berman, do you recall in late July
14 receiving a telephone call from Mark Turner of
15 MCI?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. I take it it was a fairly brief call?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. Mr. Turner asked you for the technical
20 specifications for OPII; is that right?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. And what was your response to that?

23 A. My response -- Mr. Turner basically
24 acted like there was another piece of
25 documentation that Albion had on top of what we're

1 looking at here that's been entered, as well as
2 there is a version of this that's purely a summary
3 form. Those are the only two pieces of
4 documentation that Albion had created for this
5 project.

6 Q. Other than the actual software code;
7 right?

8 A. Other than the software code.

9 Q. Did Mr. Turner ask to set up a call to
10 discuss the work you had done on CSRs?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. And I gather that the date that he
13 wanted to schedule the call was one on which you
14 were not available?

15 A. I don't remember that. It was apparent
16 that he wanted to talk at a detailed level about
17 CSRs that Jack would have been much more capable
18 of handling.

19 Q. So you had Mr. Runnels call Mr. Turner
20 back?

21 A. I do not remember chronologically how
22 that came into being. I called Jack and told him
23 that there would be a gentleman that would be
24 calling him. In fact, we talked to him a little
25 bit about what this gentleman wanted to talk

1 about. And I guess they made the connection.

2 Q. Mr. Runnels, did you call Mr. Turner,
3 or did Mr. Turner call you?

4 BY MR. RUNNELS:

5 A. I believe Mr. Turner called me.

6 Q. And I gather you had two telephone
7 calls, that first one with Mr. Turner and then one
8 the next day with Mr. Turner and a Mr. Mike Aiden
9 of MCI?

10 A. I do not recall the name of the
11 developer that was involved in the conversation,
12 but the first conversation was myself and
13 Mr. Turner. And he set up the conference call the
14 next day for himself, me and the developer.

15 Q. And when you say the developer, that's
16 someone else within MCI?

17 A. Like I said, you provided the name.

18 Q. Right.

19 A. I'm not sure if that was the person's
20 name or not. But I was told it was a developer
21 with MCI.

22 Q. I'm just trying to make sure we're
23 communicating.

24 A. Right.

25 Q. Was there anybody else on the call from

1 Albion?

2 A. No.

3 Q. To your knowledge, was anybody else on
4 the call at all?

5 A. I don't know.

6 Q. Okay. Did Mr. Turner tell you that MCI
7 had been trying to use the CGI to process CSR data
8 and had been having trouble doing so?

9 A. I don't recall whether it was
10 Mr. Turner or Mr. Alden that communicated that to
11 me. But that fact was communicated.

12 Q. And let's just talk about the two --
13 strike that. Are you able to distinguish the two
14 calls, or would it be easier for you just to talk
15 about them collectively?

16 A. Well, the first call was essentially
17 just to set up the second call. No technical --
18 there was no really no technical talk about the
19 CSR during the first call.

20 Q. Well, during the calls, were you told
21 by the MCI representatives that they were calling
22 because they had heard that Albion had been able
23 to use the CGI successfully for CSR data?

24 A. For parsing the CSR, yes.

25 Q. Did you say on the calls that in fact

1 Albion had had problems in parsing the data?

2 A. I said that we had -- that there were
3 no technical specs for doing that, that it was
4 something -- well, first of all, I made clear that
5 I only spent a few days working on it. And I only
6 tested it on a few numbers. So I couldn't
7 guarantee that it would work in all circumstances
8 and that there was no technical specification for
9 the -- like a record layout or anything like that
10 for CSR.

11 Q. When you say technical specification,
12 you're using that synonymously with record
13 layout?

14 A. No, not synonymously. Well, there was
15 a technical specification for the CSR, in as much
16 as there was one for the other information that
17 was coming back via the CGI interface. In other
18 words, the information that I used, if you look at
19 a web page using a browser, like NetScape or
20 Internet Explorer, you have the ability to view
21 the source code behind the window.

22 And if you were to print off the source
23 code for a CSR or address validation or something
24 like that, that would be essentially the same
25 thing that was in the CGI specifications. So in

1 other words, this is what you're going to get
2 back. It may or may not -- depending on what you
3 were talking about -- go into more detail about
4 what each thing within the source code that you
5 got was.

6 Q. What additional technical
7 specifications would you need to parse CSRs in
8 more detail?

9 A. Well, again, it depends on the format.
10 If you wanted to use the HTML that was returned
11 via the CGI interface, to do that, in my opinion,
12 you would have to have -- well, basically, you
13 need to have something that's unique for each
14 thing that you want to parse out.

15 If you want -- and say for example
16 billing address, if all you care about is the
17 billing address, regardless of the individual
18 pieces of that, the BA in front of that is
19 sufficient. If you want to use the HTML that
20 comes back to parse it down to the lower level,
21 you would need to have some sort of identifier
22 prior to the street number, for example, or the
23 street name.

24 Q. And to do that, you would want
25 specifications that would tell you what?

1 A. You know, that say for example, B-1 is
2 street number, B-2 is street name.

3 Q. Is that similar to a data dictionary?

4 A. I don't know.

5 Q. Mr. Berman, do you know?

6 BY MR. BERMAN:

7 A. I don't know.

8 Q. Did you tell Mr. Turner that there was
9 a lot left out of the CGI specifications?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Other than what you described, can you
12 tell us what kinds of things were left out?

13 BY MR. RUNNELS:

14 A. Well, specifically for the CSR, what
15 was left out was what each of the lines meant.
16 Essentially, it said here's what you get back. In
17 other cases, as I had stated earlier, there were
18 either typos or perhaps certain things should have
19 been sent along with a certain string, a certain
20 call to the CGI server to get back information.

21 Some things were missing. That's why I
22 had to call Raymond or Carol to find that
23 information out. There were a couple cases, like
24 say for address validation that for whatever
25 reason, zip code was left out as one of the things

1 that you need to send in in the request string.
2 Different things like that.

3 Q. Did you tell Mr. Turner and Mr. Alden
4 that you could parse CSR data into large blocks
5 but not smaller fields needed for a database?

6 A. If you wanted to store in a database
7 down to the level of street name, street number
8 etc., you could not do that, given the way that it
9 returned, no.

10 Q. And in its current form, it would be
11 impossible to parse CSRs at that level?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Did you tell Mr. Turner that BellSouth
14 had attempted to parse CSRs at that level, and it
15 was unable to do so?

16 A. That refers to what I had said earlier
17 that the LENS developers -- and I can't speak for
18 BellSouth as a whole, but the LENS developers
19 wanted it potentially at a more granular level,
20 but that what they got was essentially, you know,
21 what I got. That's the level they got it at. So
22 that's how they presented it.

23 Q. Did you say anything to the effect that
24 to parse to that field by field level, you would
25 need direct access to BellSouth's database, not

1 via HTML?

2 A. Given if you were to try to use -- I
3 guess what I was trying to say was that given the
4 way it's presented in HTML, you cannot do it,
5 because there is nothing that delineates a number
6 versus a street name versus a street abbreviation
7 or whatever within a particular line.

8 If the HTML if the presentation within
9 the HTML was not to change, then my suggestion
10 would be -- and obviously, I'm sure everybody
11 would love to have direct access to a database,
12 but for security reasons not everybody is going
13 to -- you wouldn't necessarily want to allow that
14 to happen.

15 (A discussion was had off the record.)

16 Q. One follow-up. One of you mentioned
17 that, I think -- and correct me if I'm wrong --
18 that there were a few bugs that needed to be
19 worked out after April 30th or problems that
20 needed to be resolved. I can't remember how it
21 was phrased. First of all, is that correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 BY MR. BERMAN:

24 A. Yes.

25 MR. ALEXANDER: Are you referring to